



## **Board of Regents Dinner**

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer  
Carson Ballroom – Old Main  
Wednesday, February 15, 2012

**I'm delighted to be here this evening to honor Ernie Calderon, Fred DuVal and Bob McLendon for their dedicated service as members of the Arizona Board of Regents.**

**Ernie, I know you've often referred to yourself as "the Dean of the Regents," – and "President Emeritus." So, now that you'll be free from your eight year "sentence" on the Board – free to spend more time with your beautiful family -- I'll be curious to know just what you'll be calling yourself now.**

**Maybe retired Regent Dean – and President Emeritus?**

**While we'll all miss you – one thing we won't miss – is that awful Primo Beer shirt you wear on your birthday.**

**Of course, your very real achievements as president are what we WILL remember with special appreciation – everything from your support of Proposition 100 to the expansion of the Three Plus One -- and Two Plus One collaborations with Community Colleges – and your outreach to former Regents.**

**Fred DuVal, as you probably all know, was appointed by President Clinton in 1993 to the position of Deputy Chief of Protocol at the State Department.**

**I was reminded of that this evening when I got here a little early ... and saw Fred going around to each table re-folding the napkins.**

**I think we'll all miss hearing Fred's voice on the radio talking about the plight of the university system, but something tells me he'll soon find another issue with which to fill the airwaves.**

**Maybe he'll be providing fashion advice to listeners about why gentlemen who are really sharp dressers should never wear socks. Do you have your socks on this evening, Fred? Just checking.**

**But, with or without socks on, Fred has been a dynamic force on the Board – helping rebuild the collaborative relationship with the Community Colleges -- and from it, new hybrid relationships and delivery models statewide.**

**Leading the Performance Funding initiative, Fred has been a tireless voice on behalf of the Regents, and has been instrumental in improved relations with the Legislature.**

**Bob McLendon was one of the first Regents ever appointed to represent rural Arizona.**

**Bob grew up in Douglas and has lived in Yuma since 1961.**

**He's a former high school teacher, basketball coach, Yuma County Supervisor - and he and I were freshman together in the legislature in 1983. Between his time in the Legislature and on the Board, there's no telling how many miles he's logged back and forth to Phoenix as a legislator and to Phoenix—Tucson--Flagstaff for Board meetings and events.**

**Bob, you've always been the consummate gentleman – one who is always thinking of the best interests of the state.**

**Your leadership on the Public and Legislative Affairs -- and the Capital and Finance Committees provided enormous progress in Board oversight and legislative relations. And the creation of the Educational Pipeline Task Force, improving relations and collaboration between K-12 and higher education – is a lasting achievement.**

**Let me close with a heart-felt tribute to these three wonderful public servants.**

**You met my 2009 challenge.**

**You defined your goals and metrics to monitor your progress.**

**You developed a strategic plan, and answered my call to increase baccalaureate degree production by putting it front and center in your goals.**

**All three of you are staunch advocates for more access and affordability in higher education.**

**All three of you have been tremendous stewards of the system -  
- working tirelessly to balance the needs of students and the state.**

**Your leadership and vision have enhanced partnerships with the community colleges, online learning and new access points around the state such as NAU-Yavapai.**

**So, for their loyal service and tireless commitment to the future of this state, I'm proud to say to Ernie, Fred and Bob -- ALL of Arizona is deeply grateful -- and all of Arizona says ... Thank you!**

**God bless you all.**

